GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:387
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2016
M2M Communication and IoT
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India proposes to issue a consultation paper on Machine to Machine communication (M2M) and Internet of Things (IoT) and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the objective behind the move; and

(c) the present status thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT TO BE LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.387 FOR 14TH DECEMBER, 2016 REGARDING "M2M COMMUNICATION AND IoT".

(a) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released a Consultation Paper on 'Spectrum, Roaming and Quality of Service (QoS) related requirements in Machine-to-Machine (M2M) Communications' on 18th October, 2016 seeking the comments of the stakeholders.

While formulating the consultation paper on M2M issues, apart from the specific issues referred by DoT through reference, TRAI felt that certain other regulatory aspects including policy and licensing framework for M2M service providers, various technical challenges in implementation, allocation and utilization of various network codes, data protection and privacy issues also need to be deliberated. Therefore, these issues have also been included in the Consultation Paper for comments/inputs of the stakeholders.

(b) M2M communication is the basis for automated information exchange between machines and can impact various industry verticals like Smart City, Smart Grid, Smart Water, Smart Transportation, Smart Health etc.

M2M communication uses a device (such as a sensor) to capture an event, which is relayed through a network (wireless, wired or hybrid) to an application, that translates the captured event into meaningful information. M2M is also being inter-changeably used as IoT (Internet of Things).

Accordingly, Government of India has recognized the potential of M2M and emphasized the same in the National Telecom Policy 2012. Subsequently, the Government has come out with 'National Telecom M2M Roadmap' in May, 2015 with the purpose of boosting development of M2M based products and to provide efficient citizen centric services in India.

In the above background, DoT vide letter dated 5thJanuary, 2016 has sought the recommendations of TRAI on three aspects related to M2M communications:

(i) Quality of Service (QoS) in M2M Services
(ii) M2M Roaming Requirements
(iii) M2M Spectrum Requirements

Accordingly, TRAI has come out with the consultation paper.

(c) The last date for receiving the comments and counter comments from the stakeholders on this consultation paper was 15th November, 2016 and 29th November, 2016 respectively. Subsequently, TRAI has extended the last date for receiving the comments to 12th January, 2017 and counter comments to 19th January, 2017.